

Patent Application Serial No. 10/568,416

REMARKS

Claim 1 as amended relates to a feature that *both* of the substrates are in electrical contact with the holding members, reciting, “each of the transparent first substrate and the second substrate including at least one of the lead-out terminals thereof being in contact with at least one of the holding members”. This is supported in the drawing Fig. 1; in the Abstract (“That portion of the holding member that is inserted between the transparent first substrate (110) and the second substrate (130) is disposed so as to be in contact with each lead-out terminal (114, 134)”; and in the Specification, paragraph [0028] as listed in the PAIR file)“In the portions where the clips 80, 80 are inserted between the movable substrate 110 and the fixed substrate 130, the top surfaces of the clips 80, 80 are in contact with the lead-out terminals 114, 114 of the movable substrate 110. In the portions where the clips 81, 81 are inserted between the movable substrate 110 and the fixed substrate 130, the bottom surfaces of the clips 81, 81 are in contact with the lead-out terminals 134, 134 of the fixed substrate 130.” In response to the outstanding Action:

(1-2) The Examiner notes the status of the case and the Applicant's options. The Applicant responds with an Amendment.

(3-5) All claims 1-6 and 8-11 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being obvious over Yukio, JP 2002-259054, in view of Bachus, US 5,760,862. This rejection is respectfully traversed.

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(A) The feature added to claim 1 by the present amendment is not disclosed by either of the references.

(B) A major argument in the Brief was that Mikio did not show a leg of a holding member inserted between two substrates. The Examiner now withdraws Mikio as the secondary reference and asserts that Bachus shows this feature. In the text spanning pages 4/5, the Examiner states, "Please note Figure 2 which shows the conductor parts 12 is inserted between the substrate 3 and other substrate 4." The Applicant respectfully disagrees.

According to the Applicant's dictionary, the word "between" means "In the space separating (two points, objects, etc.)", and the space separating substrates 3 and 4 does not contain the part 12. Rather, Fig. 2 shows the part 12 "between" substrate 3 and housing 16; the substrate 4 does not extend over the part 12.

The conductor tracks 5 of Bachus might correspond to the lead-out terminals 114 or 134 in the Applicant's Fig. 7 (which corresponds to Yukio). If the references were combined, then the U-shaped member of Bachus would be put on the edge of the either one of Yukio's substrates 110 and/or 130 in such an orientation that electrical contact could be made to the U-shaped member only on the side away from the other substrate. This is due to the fact that the lead-out terminals 114, 134 of Yukio are located on the mutually facing (inside) surfaces of the substrates 110, 130, while the

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U-shaped member of Bachus contains metallic members 12 that make electrical contact between the conductor track 5 (corresponding to the lead-out terminals 114, 134) and the opposite side of the substrate 3.

For example, in Fig. 4 of Bachus the protrusions 12a and 12b are located on opposite sides of the indentation that holds the substrate. In any combination with Yukio, the contacts 12b would be on opposite sides of the substrate sandwich, facing outward. Thus, a respective U-shaped member of Bachus would need to be on both of the substrates of Yukio in order to make contact with the outside. However, claim 1 recites "a plurality of holding members that pinch a peripheral edge *of only the transparent first substrate*", which excludes the second substrate and would lead to electrical isolation of the second substrate in any combination, if the combination were to meet the language of claim 1.

Respectfully submitted,

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